

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to describe the recess or cut portion 2a.

The drawing (Fig. 4) has been amended to add a bracket in Fig. 4. A new sheet of drawing labeled "Replacement Sheet" is attached.

All informalities with respect to the specification and the drawing noted in the Office Action have been complied with.

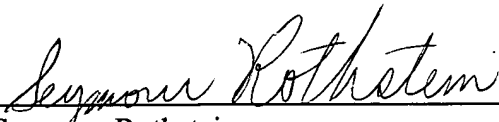
By this amendment, claim 3 has been cancelled and claims 1, 4, 5, and 6 have been amended to better define the present invention and to provide consistent terminology in the claims. The objection to claims 5 and 6 on the basis of 35 USC Sec. 112 has been obviated and clear antecedent basis has been provided for the term "rotation pin". Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 remain for consideration.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5 and 6 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. The reason for allowance is the Examiner's recognition that none of the references disclosed a fixing apparatus wherein the connection member is a rotation pin. As amended herein, claim 1 includes the limitation of "a rotation pin connecting ends of said plurality of arms, wherein said base member supports said arms together with said rotation pin".

Applicant submits that each of the claims remaining in this application contains language that distinguishes over the prior art and is in accord with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

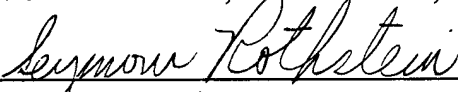
Date: October 13, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and its attachments are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 13, 2004.


Seymour Rothstein

Serial No. 10/646,974

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Amendments to the Drawing:

Attachment: Replacement Sheet